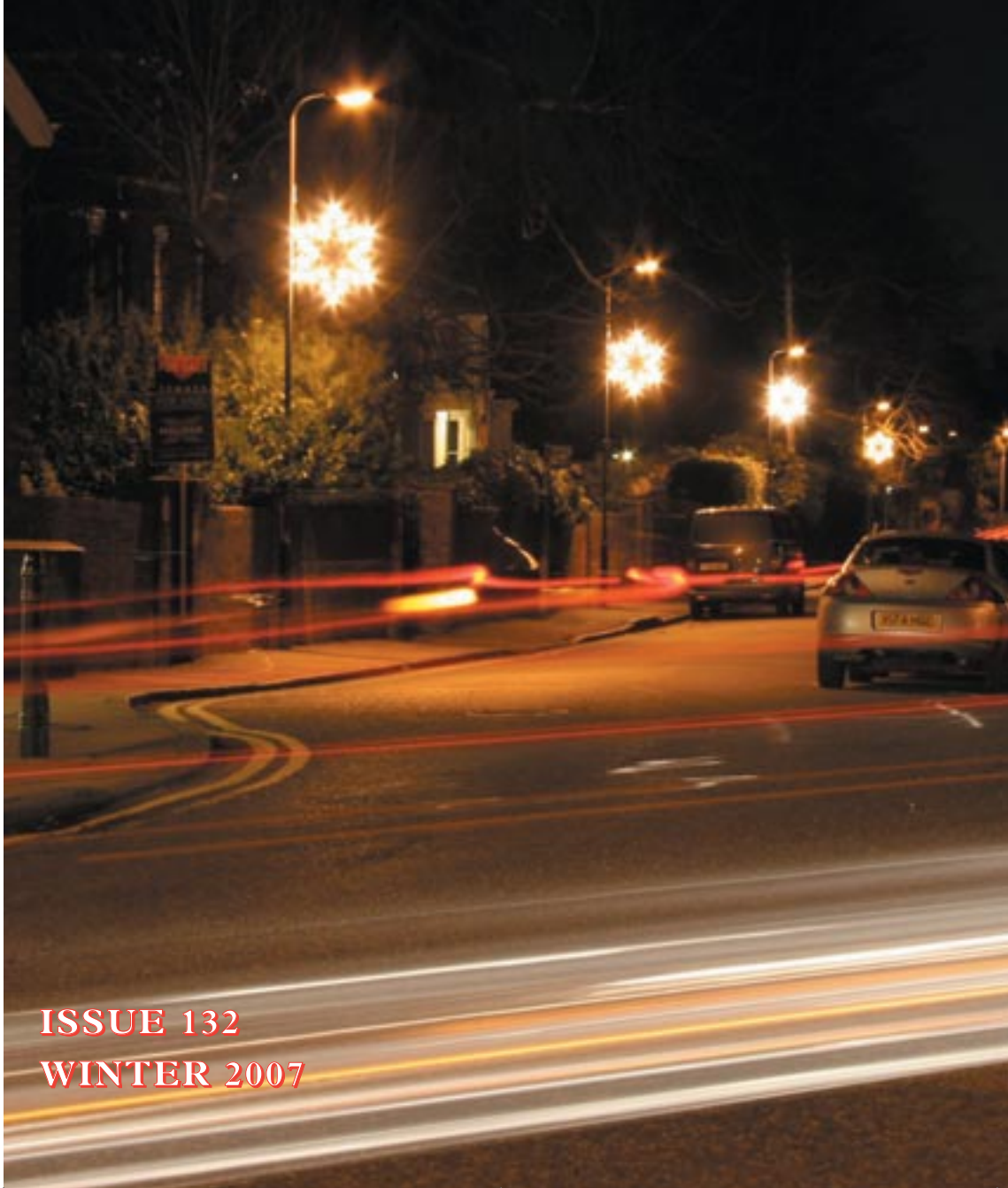


PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS



ISSUE 132
WINTER 2007

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Editorial Working Group:

Alison Morton (Editor), Paul Barrington-King, Rosie Bass,
Janet Ditchett and Joy Gregory

Please note: The Editor's decision is final on whether or not to publish any item submitted. The Editor reserves the right to edit (that is to cut, précis, alter, correct grammar and spelling) any item published..

PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

Editor: Mrs Alison Morton
2 The Coppice, Pembury TN2 4EY
Tel: 824938 Fax: 825134
Distribution enquiries: Parish Clerk 823193
Email: pvn@pembury.org
Website: www.pembury.org

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IT'S A KNOCKOUT

THE AFTERNOON of 29 September, when Pembury youth groups and clubs met up with each other and had fun, was a complete knock-out! As well as raising money together for equipment to furnish the planned youth area in Pembury Recreation Ground they had a brilliant time.



After listening to the wishes of all the youngsters as we went round the youth groups earlier this year and also spoke to any youth we could find who wasn't in an organised group, it became very apparent to the Chairman of the Parish Council and me that we had to carry their wishes to a positive conclusion.

With the help of the youth leaders and the Amenities Committee – 'It's a Knockout' was evolved. Each youth group was to come up with a game requiring skill, dexterity and fun. We, on the Amenities Committee, got on

with the score cards, posters and getting in money to help fund this day because it had to be self-supporting.

The week leading up to this special event was such a worry. The weather was atrocious. The rain came down in sheets so contingency plans were thought through. Why did we worry? Saturday dawned and oh joy, the sun was shining and it was warm. It was meant to be! All that hard work came together.

The teams and their helpers all turned up and lots of youngsters came on the off-chance so we made up teams for them. Families had their own teams. It's at times like this that you know all the work was worthwhile. The teams really did well with their choice of games – all challenging and inventive, also a lot of fun and really brought out the competitive spirit of our teams.



continued on page 5



COPY FOR NEXT ISSUE

Any news items or articles for possible inclusion in the next issue of this magazine must be forwarded to the Editor before

1 February 2008.

If you use a computer to type your article, it would be extremely helpful if you could send it (and photos) in by e-mail to pvn@pembury.org



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IT'S A KNOCKOUT – continued

Our very special thanks go to David Gow, (Chairman of the PAYFC) who was an extremely proficient MC and he really kept it all together – a brilliant job! To see the recreation ground used to its full potential was a very rewarding sight.

The team from The Mix group at the Baptist Church won; very well done to them, but seeing all the effort that all the youngsters put in to this made them all stars. Cllr David Coleman, the Parish Council Chairman, presented the cup to the delighted Mix team. When we asked the participating youngsters if they wanted to do it again, we got a resounding 'YES!' It was very heartening to hear and see their responses and their enjoyment that afternoon – all worth the hard work.



I would like to say thank you to the following people for all their help; all the youth leaders, my colleagues on the Parish Council and their partners, Stephen and his carers (Mick and Susanne) who did a superb job on the tombola stall. The BBQ was another huge success as was the tea stall run by Carol and Kevin. A very special 'thank you' to the Scouts and Guides for the use of their facilities, very welcome. A total of £917.45 was raised towards equipment for the new youth area in the recreation ground.

And lastly, but importantly, to our sponsors who donated money, notably Town & Country Housing who recognise the work Pembury is doing towards community enjoyment, DB Estates who donated the precious cup; this will be fought for keenly over the years ahead. All our local firms who were so generous and giving to this day. I don't quite know how to tell them yet but due to public demand I shall be in touch next year. Please be as generous again. I can only end with 'Thank you, Pembury' as the village is always there, willing it all to go well.

June Crowhurst, Chair, Amenities Working Group, Pembury Parish Council

MUSIC AT CHRISTMAS

THERE ARE many ways to enjoy great music at St Peter's this Christmas. On Saturday 8 December we'll be holding 'Carols, Candles and Coffee' following on from the success of last years event. Starting at 3pm this is a carol sing-a-long where you get to chose what we sing as the afternoon progresses. While we can't guarantee everyone's choice we should get through most of the favourites, washed down with coffee and a few mince pieces to keep us going. On the same evening at 7.30pm, we welcome well-known local group 'Quorum' to entertain us with some well known and not so well known Christmas Music. This will be a relaxed concert, seated around tables – please feel free to bring your own wine. Tickets £5.

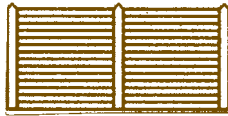
We're privileged on Sunday 16 December to have 'Quintus' to lead the music for the Old Church Carol Service (6.30pm). By candlelight the Old Church is the ideal place to enjoy this service of music and readings, some biblical and some more light hearted, to tell the Christmas Story. On Sunday 23 December at 6.30pm is the Parish Carol Service in the Upper Church. This service follows the traditional pattern of lessons and carols which you find in King's College Cambridge among many other places. Wonderful music will be provided by our own Church Singers and there will be a chance to join in all the old favourites.

If that's not enough you can hear the combined forces of Pembury Churches outside Tesco's from 7pm on 12 December and at the Camden Arms on 19th, again from 7pm.

Contact telephone number for details of the above – 824761.

Steffan Keily

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OUR LOCAL HERO

THE SAFER Kent Awards are organised annually by the Kent Police Authority to celebrate outstanding work by individuals or groups of people who work with the public, including Police Community Support Officers, Special Constables, Community Wardens and Neighbourhood Watch volunteers.

Our Community Warden, Tom Younger, was nominated by people from a number of the village organisations and by me for his work at The Mix Youth Club, where we are both registered helpers, and for his work with older residents. There are winners and runners up for each of the six Kent policing areas but Tom was the overall winner, receiving his Award from Chief Constable Mike Fuller. Tom received a cheque for £500 which he will use to try and set up a junior warden scheme and to fund educational talks at the youth club.



*Award winner – Tom Younger.
Pembury's Community Warden*

Mike Tompsett

PEPENBURY

PEPENBURY IS celebrating its 80th year between now and September next year and we want to encourage as many people as possible to come to see us and join in our birthday events. For 80 years we have been offering care and support to people with learning disabilities and we feel that this is something to be very proud about.



We will publish up-coming events in future editions of the Pembury Village News (and Courier Community column) and we hope that you will be able to join us at some of our events. In the next few months these are:

Christmas Carol Service – St. Peter's Church, Pembury – 18 December 2007.

Tree Planting Ceremony – a tree will be planted for every resident, member of staff and friend of Pepenbury to make a pleasant recreation area for everybody locally to use – 16 January 2008

Sponsored Walk – 15 March 2008

This Christmas we have a lovely selection of Christmas cards for sale, all designed by the service users at Pepenbury and these are on sale now at our Christmas Shop in Cornford Lane, together with crafts and decorations made at Pepenbury and locally grown produce – you can even order a Kentish Turkey for Christmas Day.

And don't forget our Christmas trees also available now. This year, they will all be of the best quality all GROWN LOCALLY. Please come and see us in Cornford Lane for a browse and something from our Coffee Shop.


Roy Brazier



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THE NEW IMAGES OF PEMBURY COMPETITION

IN 2008 we are giving a new angle to Pembury in Bloom and revitalising the competition by calling it 'Images of Pembury'. This will give more Pembury residents a chance to enter the community competition because it will encompass more of village life and be based on photographs, paintings and drawings. The competition will continue to be sponsored by Notcutts Garden Centre, Tonbridge Road, Pembury and run in partnership with Pembury Parish Council.

People who love their gardens and enter Pembury in Bloom can still take part but what they will do in 2008 is to take a photo of or draw or paint their garden.

The new competition will not just capture the beauty of Pembury's gardens but will seek to capture village life, whether wild life, gardens or village events.

We are launching the competition in this edition of Pembury Village News and we will remind you throughout 2008. Entries need to be received by Notcutts Garden Centre, Pembury or DSH Public Relations, 42 Alexandra Road, Farnborough, Hants GU14 6DA by 30 November 2008. The winners' presentation will take place in February 2009.

The size of photographs (prints only), drawings and paintings must be a min 7 x 5 inches and a max 10 x 12 inches (A4). Entries should be in hard copy and not computer files, or framed. This is to make it easier for posting and judging.

It is recommended that all entries are posted in a board backed envelope because the organisers cannot accept responsibility for damage in transit. Entries are not returnable and Notcutts will have the right to use and to display all or any of the images submitted for publicity purposes connected with the competition. It could be in local newspapers and magazines or on the display boards that will be produced. However, the copyright remains with the photographer and he/she is therefore free to use or sell the image elsewhere.

All places photographed/drawn must be within the Parish boundary. They must be real places, with address of place supplied on entry form.

The categories are:

- Best Wildlife picture (drawing, painting or photo);
- Best Garden picture (drawing, painting or photo);
- Best picture by child up to 9 years;
- Best picture by child 10 to 14 years;
- Best flower picture;
- Best vegetable/fruit picture (for which the Fredrick Barden trophy will be presented);
- Best Picture depicting Pembury Life.

There will be £30 and £10 prizes in Notcutts vouchers for 1st and 2nd prizes in each of the seven categories.

After the competition has been judged the pictures will be displayed around the village.

Good luck and happy snapping!



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CIRQUE DE NORMANDY VISIT TO PEMBURY SCHOOL

JUNE MAY seem a long time ago, but the visit by Cirque de Normandy to Pembury School certainly left its mark!

All the children took part in Cirque workshops. Sixty children were chosen to perform live to audiences in the 460-seater Big Top. What an experience! All the children, teachers and parents have lasting memories of an amazing week! Our thanks must go to the Pembury School Association for arranging such a wonderful event!

We made the Meridian News at 6.30pm and 10.30pm, BBC Radio Kent, Kent Messenger & the Kent & Sussex Courier. We have some lovely photographs and a DVD of the event for sale; please contact the School Office for details.

Gillian Mayrick



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THE PEMBURY SOCIETY



THE PEMBURY Society held its AGM and Annual Meeting on Thursday 25 October. Those present were welcomed by Ken Watts, the chairman. Apart from the usual AGM business Richard Snow, a committee member, gave a report on the results of the questionnaire that was circulated to members in the spring which was concerned with how members see the society and what it should be doing to protect and enhance the life of the village. Number one issue was car parking and suggestions were invited from the floor as to how the problem might be alleviated. It is proposed that the committee will look at all the points made by members in the survey so that constructive suggestions can be made.

After the business meeting, coffee was served and this was followed by a lively and informative impersonation of Rudyard Kipling by Geoff Hutchinson. His biography, which was all in the first person except the events surrounding Kipling's death in 1936, was interspersed with poems and prose which showed how Kipling's writings were influenced by his life experiences. For example, his early work Departmental Ditties is a collection of poems of his observations of the behaviour of the colonial classes in Simla during the hot Indian summer. He is best known for his stories based in India and these were influenced by his great love of the country where he was born. Baden-Powell was a friend of his and he became involved with the Scout movement in its early days. He wrote the Scout Patrol Song which had the refrain 'Look out'. It was obvious from this presentation that Kipling was a very sensitive man and this was reflected in his writings, both the happy times and the sad.

The vote of thanks was given by Derek Johnson.

Kathryn Franklin

NHS RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP – TUNBRIDGE WELLS AND DISTRICT BRANCH


THE FELLOWSHIP meets at 10.15am on the first Wednesday of the month, except in January. We meet at the Pembury Scout and Guide Headquarters. The Fellowship is open to all members of retired staff. Should you wish to join us, you will receive a warm welcome.

We are a lively group with a wide age range and interest. We are all young at heart. Apart from having various speakers, we also enjoy pub lunches and outings to places of interest, including theatres and TV shows.

Our membership is growing steadily with 76 members at present. We would also like to see more gentlemen join us as they are few on the ground.

For further information please contact the branch secretary, **Pat Davis** on 823826.





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SNIPPETS

YOUR MAGAZINE, the much admired Pembury Village News, is looking for one or two people to join its editorial team. You do not necessarily need to have a journalist background, but you should be able to string a few words together in easily understood and grammatical English as well as be interested in Pembury as a community. It would be very helpful if you have email and can handle wordprocessing in Word for Windows.

This is part-time, a few hours a month with absolutely no pay! The upside is belonging to a friendly (not to say positively jolly!) team of people reporting on and promoting Pembury, the community where they live.

Interested? Then email pvn@pembury.org or call Alison Morton on 824938, preferably in the evening up to 9pm.

FIREWORKS

Better than ever, so the public said! The annual display organised by Pembury Parish Council in Lower Green Recreation Ground on Friday 2 November was truly spectacular. Also spectacular was the collection of voluntary donations, an impressive £1,928.85 (plus a couple of Australian dollars, a euro, 10 US cents and some Thai coins!). A big thank you to all residents who came along and contributed to the atmosphere and who helped us give a good boost to the charity funds going to Popenbury and St John Ambulance.

WHEELCHAIR LOAN

The Out & About Club has a wheelchair which can be available for free loan for a maximum of 24 hours to any Pembury Resident. If you wish to take advantage of this facility please ring Pauline Hawker on 01892 824327 to check availability.

NEW PEMBURY HOSPITAL

Equion Consortium, comprising international companies John Laing, Laing O'Rourke and Interserve, has been chosen to design and build the new £225 million PFI scheme at Pembury.

The Trust is now working with Equion to complete the detailed designs for the new 512 bed hospital, which will be the first acute hospital in the country with 100 per cent single rooms. Equion will then submit a planning application to the local authority for the development in early 2008.

Source: www.mtw.nhs.uk/your-new-hospital/

MULTISPORTS REPORT

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council ran two-hour 'Summer Fun' multisport sessions in the Lower Green Recreation Ground on 10 and 17 August. They reported that 165 children turned up and joined in altogether – a great result! Roll on next summer!

HOUSING SURVEY

The Borough Council will be conducting a housing needs survey in Jan/Feb 2008 and will be contacting Pembury residents to ask them to fill in a form about their housing. This is part of a five-year programme to find out what the needs are in the Borough's villages, particularly for affordable housing.

MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Parish Council's Allotments, Burials and Environment Working Group are developing a plan for a memorial garden and hope to launch this in the New Year. Applicants are to be Pembury residents or to be applying for a plaque in remembrance of somebody who was a Pembury resident. This is not designed as a place for the interment or strewing of ashes, but a focus for relatives who wish to have a place in Pembury to quietly remember a loved one. Details will be available from the Clerk's office in the New Year.

LITTLE MONKEYS!

ON TUESDAY mornings the joyful sounds of Monkey Music can be heard at Pembury Village Hall. Local mum Mary-Jane Underhay recalls: *"When I had my first son Dylan I looked around to see what activities were available. After some research and asking other local parents Monkey Music was the name that kept coming up, and as it was down the road, even better! Dylan loved it. The sessions were a fantastic way of meeting other local mums and dads, especially as there is also a market and coffee morning in the hall with great homemade cakes and biscuits. Many a toy or book has been purchased from the stalls."*

Tuesday's classes are run by Alison Norman, who especially enjoys the atmosphere at Pembury: *"Although I live in London and travel down once a week I've always received a warm welcome. At the market, I buy locally grown vegetables and delicious homemade cakes and jams. Naughty but nice! I often find a book for my son George, or an exciting toy. Best of all, I can get a nice cup of tea."*



Alison's background is in social work with children and young people. A keen singer, she sang in a function band for several years, playing at clubs and private parties most weekends. Looking for a new direction, something to combine her love of music and her soft spot for working with young children, Alison discovered Monkey Music. She liked the way it combined a structured curriculum with a keen sense of musical fun! After two years working for Monkey Music in south London, Alison started running her own classes in the Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks areas. She's been teaching at Pembury since 2003.



Monkey Music is not just fun, but educational, as mum Jane Fineman explains: *"My son Max loves Monkey Music. Joining in with the songs and actions each week is really helping to develop his language skills, and he also enjoys the social interaction with the other children. His older brother Sam was equally enthusiastic. They also enjoy playing the percussion instruments. Anything that gets the desire to bang and crash out of their system when they're not at home has got to be a good thing!"*

Dads are welcome too, though prepare to be outnumbered! Zac Thraves took the plunge: *"My daughter loved Monkey Music and now my son has started the classes. As a man I thought I would not get into the spirit of the thing, but I have. I am pleased to say that it is one of the best and most welcoming and enjoyable parts of our week and my son can't wait to get there. Being the token male in our class was daunting to start with, but Alison is wonderfully welcoming and warm and once the silly songs started all inhibitions were lost."*

Last word goes to another mum, Al Devlin: *"Thanks for fitting me and Ava in. It really is my favourite half hour each week with her, thanks for making it such a lovely time!"*

If you like the sound of Monkey Music, there are two sessions on Tuesday mornings, and plans to open two more in January, including a "Rock 'n' Roll" class for babies aged three months and over. For more information, or to try a class for free, phone Alison on 0208 3141081 or email alison.norman@monkeymusic.co.uk



PEMBURY VILLAGE MARKET

DID YOU KNOW that Pembury has a market and coffee shop in the village hall every Tuesday morning from 9.30 to 11.30? Here you will find a wide range of stalls, some of them supporting local charities. Much of the fruit and vegetables sold here are sourced from nearby smallholdings so they are nice and fresh and quite often organic. There is a good selection of essential groceries and free-range eggs.

The home-made cakes and savouries are all freshly baked the previous day and there are also many different varieties of jams, marmalades and chutneys. If you are looking for a special present then the hand-crafted jewellery is beautifully made and individual as are the hand-made cards for all different occasions. Seasonal plants are another attraction whether it be for summer or

winter bedding, pots or hanging baskets. There are second-hand

books to suit all tastes from children's to adults' and a good bric-a-brac stall, many items of which are new and once a month there is a good-as-new toy stall where you can pick up a bargain.

But, if none of these take your fancy, why not just come along and have a tea or coffee and a piece of cake or meet up with friends for a chat.

Tom Younger, Pembury's Community Warden, High Weald Housing (now Town & Country) and on occasions Nick Brown, our local Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), also have their surgery here every Tuesday and if you need any advice or a chat about a problem they will try and sort it out for you.

Karol Young



AMBERSIDE DANCE STUDIO PEMBURY

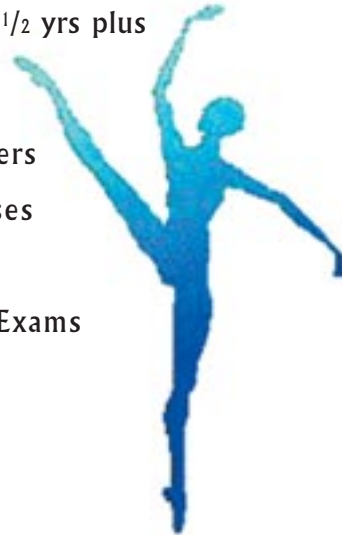
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PEMBURY CRICKET CLUB – A CLUB TO BE PROUD OF

A PROLONGED DRY spell with bright, sunny days – that must mean the cricket season is over then. Despite a seriously wet summer with the particularly rainy moments reserved for Pembury CC barbecues, supporters, wives, partners and even some of the players will take away happy memories of Summer 2007; and, as a club now firmly focused on development, the future is looking decidedly rosy.

On the field, the First Eleven season can probably be summed up in one word – inconsistent.

One week, we were dispatching title-contending and keenest of rivals Cowdrey, the next collapsing to defeat against much less heralded opposition. The team never won more than two games on the trot, yet still finished comfortably in the top four of Kent Cricket Feeder League 1A thanks in the main to the bonus point system which awards points for wickets taken and, for the losing side, the closeness of the result. The team has now mastered this point scoring system without necessarily mastering some of the more basic skills such as batting. In fairness, as a result of difficult pitches throughout the season, the batsmen were always likely to struggle and it was a mark of the tenacity of the side and the excellent bowling that games remained tight.

The Second Eleven also enjoyed mixed success and finished mid-table in Kent Cricket Feeder League 2B. The team continues to blend youth with Ralgex-reeking experience. Junior members of the club such as Matt Rice-Tucker, Nick and Elliot Forward and Deeyam Patel will surely be pushing for First Team recognition soon.

The Sunday side, with its eclectic mix of seasoned cricketers and young bucks, has always provided entertainment and remains an excellent environment for junior cricketers beginning to make their way in senior cricket. The same can be said of the Tuesday Evening side with Pembury's policy firmly directed towards developing junior talent.

The Junior section which now has seven qualified coaches and covers the age range 7-17

years, continues to grow in strength, numbers and popularity. Such has been the popularity, in fact, that the cricket club has had to use the facilities at Pembury Primary School to safely accommodate the younger members. Coaching takes place outdoors between May and August

on Saturday mornings and is open to boys and girls.

The club entered four competitive sides in the Mid Kent Youth League at Under 11, 13, 15 and 17 age groups. The Under 13 team won their League Cup competition and the teams at Under 11, 13 and

17 all finished second in their respective leagues. All in all, it was a very creditable playing season and reward for the players and coaches who have invested so much time and effort. Hopefully, next year additional qualified coaches will enable us to continue to expand the junior membership.

Pembury CC has worked tremendously hard over the last few years to get away from the old image of cricket for the men with the wives doing the teas (although the teas are still especially good) and towards junior development and inclusion for all the family. Committee members are actively seeking grants to improve the club facilities. Social events organiser, Sandy Crouch, has created a year-long diary of functions which has helped not only to swell the coffers but also integrated the whole of the family within the club. We are in the fortunate position of having what is now one of the best squares in Kent, a result of the amazing devotion of Colin Buckle and his ground staff. These achievements have culminated in the club being awarded Clubmark status, a prestigious reward given only to clubs which have shown and continue to show excellence in the provision of facilities and support for the junior members of its community.

This is indeed a club for Pembury to be proud of.

If you would like to learn more about Pembury CC, please contact Andy Dawes 822862

Rob Eaton, Club Captain



PEMBURY PEOPLE – DAVID COLEMAN

"It is in the shelter of each other that the people live." (Irish proverb)

IF WE APPLY this ancient and sage advice to the very real need for residents to play an active role in the shaping and forming of their heartland, we have the essence of community. As history rightly portrays, successful communities require representation and leadership to fight the challenges to their existence. Many of us, but not all, will be aware of the endeavours and activities of our Parish Council, a group of hardworking and unpaid representatives who selflessly offer their time and expertise for the benefit of our community. I can assure all of our readers that we in Pembury have a formidable reputation in Kent for maintaining our status as being one of the best places to reside in the county. After writing for many editions of the Pembury Village News, I have finally 'collared' a leading figure in this record of achievement. The 'Pembury Person' for this edition is David Coleman, our Parish Council Chairman. Having lived in the village for nearly forty years, he has contributed enormously by community leadership and diligence to the everyday life that we all enjoy within our special community.



David first came to Pembury in 1970 from London when he and his wife Andrea married and like many others, bought their first house together. They have lived here ever since, with both their children, Daniel and Esther, being born here and attending Pembury Primary School and Mascalls. Both Daniel and Esther now have families of their own but live quite locally; Dan in Southborough and Esther in Tunbridge Wells. The grandchildren, Grace, Finley and Alex, are a source of constant joy and pride and like so many grandparents nowadays David and Andrea love to play a big part in their lives.

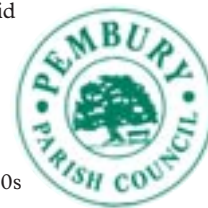
Involvement with the Parish Council didn't start until the 1980s and followed a little after David's first taste of local service as one of the first elected parent governors of Pembury School. The motivation which set him off on the road to being a parish councillor were threefold. Firstly, the utter unsuitability of the now long-forgotten proposal to build a supermarket straddling land between Beagles Wood Road and The Bachelors; secondly, embryonic development proposals to extend Pembury massively; and thirdly, the Borough Council's arbitrary decision to stop allowing children's swimming lessons in their pool. After some heated exchanges with the then Parish Council, Borough Council, developers and assorted 'others', David thought he either had to 'shut up or put up' and become part of the system to change things.

That was in 1983 and he has been a parish councillor ever since; Chairman for a bit in the 1990s and Vice Chairman for much of the remaining time, then Chairman again in 2005. David fondly recalls fighting a number of elections in the days when there were more candidates than vacancies, and is greatly concerned that so few people are prepared to be involved now. *"It is very sad,"* David contends, *"that at a time when so much depends upon the local Parish, from our ambitious developments the recreation ground, community enhancement and safety, Christmas lights and the wonderful annual free fireworks, not to mention working with our Borough Councillors in standing up for Pembury and presenting a local voice, so few are prepared to commit themselves."*

During his time as a parish councillor, David has been Chair of the Kent Association of Parish Councils (he is currently a Vice President), member of the governing Council of the National Association of Local Councils and a Government adviser on parish reform. He also serves as parish representative on Tunbridge Wells Council's Standards Committee. When asked what he considered his greatest parish success, David thinks it was probably his contribution to getting a very tight Metropolitan Green Belt line put around Pembury, which has prevented the village from long ago being submerged into urban Tunbridge Wells. However, he firmly states that all the good work undertaken by the Parish Council over many years has been the result of excellent team work

and the marvellously dedicated service of Parish Councillors and clerks. David is also very aware of the huge role played by his predecessors as Parish chair, Dick Miles and Sarah Clark.

So what about David himself and his background? Born in Lancashire, but moved to London at an early age, he grew up there in a council flat on the borders of Tooting and Battersea. He went to the local LCC primary school followed by The Bec Grammar School, where he was a contemporary of 1960s England rugby captain Bob Hillier, pop star Mike Sarne and (briefly) the Conservative Party's David Davis. Not being as distinguished as they (his only claim to fame in those early years was being thrown out of the Boys Brigade, he says, with a twinkle in his eye) he left school as early as legally possible and entered on a career in local government.



This was a fortunate move as in those days most jobs provided significant educational opportunities to qualify while working. Realising the error of his ways, David knuckled down and was able to qualify professionally, while at the same time building a career. Over the years, he worked for Middlesex County Council and Wandsworth, Lambeth and Newham London Boroughs before becoming Assistant Director of Engineering and Works at the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea in the 1970s. In the 1980s, he moved to Bexley London Borough as a chief officer and when he retired a few years ago, was responsible for the environment, highways, parks, drainage, waste management and emergency services; he also acted as Government and Local Government Association adviser.

Asked about the highlights of his career, David was a bit perplexed. Those were strange times of great change, many for the better but a lot that were not. During the late 1970s there were almost constant strikes and effective industrial relations skills were at a premium. Indeed, he was once thanked for his services by Margaret Thatcher, Tony Benn and the leader of the Trotskyite London Shop Stewards Co-ordinating Committee in the same month (they all then lived in Kensington & Chelsea). The contracting out culture which stopped the regular strikes and greatly improved value for money followed, but this resulted in the almost total emasculation of local government to a point where we had probably the most centralised state in the western world. One of his biggest regrets, David claims, was being part of the team that convinced Michael Heseltine in the mid 1980s to adopt the first key performance indicators. *"Just look where that has got public services,"* he says sadly, *"they are now often not based on actual local need but only on meeting some national target."*

After retiring from local government in London, David has been an adviser on policy to a number of public bodies and organisations while also sitting as the independent Chair of the Kent Police Authority and Kent & Medway Fire Authority Standards Committees and, until recently, an independent member of the Kent County Council Standards Committee, the KAPC representative on the Kent Partnership and the local parishes representative on the West Kent Partnership. Moving into senior life is very interesting, David affirms, now being acutely aware of the benefits of a free bus pass. Much time is spent with Mencap where he acts as a befriender and advocate for a man with Down's syndrome. He is also a regular 'sporting commuter' to his beloved Arsenal Football Club and Saturday mornings will often see him at the village green, resplendent in red and white, eagerly awaiting the coach for the journey to cheer on the 'Gunners'.

Talking over the Pembury matters that are always dear to our hearts, David re-iterated that he had always regarded our village as a special place, but he voiced real concerns for the future, particularly the reluctance of people to come forward to fill current vacancies on our Parish Council. Leadership has been described as often taking people not where they want to go, but often to somewhere else that will prove to be a better place. This can sometimes be the loneliest place in the world but as Ralph Waldo Emerson states *"Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail"*. We are fortunate that in Pembury David Coleman has laid a very fine trail indeed.

Paul Barrington-King



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BBC'S GEORGE ALAGIAH VISITS KENT COLLEGE PEMBURY

ON 21 SEPTEMBER Kent College Pembury welcomed the BBC news presenter and foreign correspondent George Alagiah when he spoke at the school's annual 'Birthday Lecture' focusing on multiculturalism in Britain, his career as a foreign correspondent and his experiences of living in Africa.

He spoke of the problems he had endured after moving to England, how he had occasionally felt isolated and how he and his family had been treated somewhat differently. It was interesting to hear about the life of a man who had emigrated from Sri Lanka himself, and ended up becoming one of the most well known faces of the BBC and is also the patron of the Fairtrade Association.

He closed his speech with questions from the audience. Questions such as "Is there a particular charity you think teenagers should get involved in?" and "What has been your scariest moment as a BBC foreign correspondent?" and others were asked by students. They received detailed answers including a rather breath-taking story of how George and his team found themselves in some difficulty trying to escape from Sudan under very dangerous circumstances.

The talk was clearly enjoyed by all who attended. It left parents, staff and students with a wider knowledge of multicultural Britain and George Alagiah's career as a presenter on the BBC and as a foreign correspondent. His speech was not only entertaining but also motivating and inspirational, showing just what can be achieved with determination.

This year's lecture celebrates the 121st birthday of the girls' independent school based in Pembury. The school is renowned for its inspiring speakers, which have included Olympic gold-medallist Roger Black and journalist Kate Adie.

Zoe Hewitt, Kent College



PEMBURY EVENTS CALENDAR

THIS VILLAGE events calendar was set up in 2005 to provide information about forthcoming events and to try to prevent clashes of dates of events being put on by different village groups and organizations. It is run by Janet Ditchett (contact details below) and we owe her a great debt of gratitude for maintaining it for the benefit of all Pembury residents.

The diary is online and accessed through the Pembury Village News website home page at www.pembury.org. Just click on the Village Events Calendar, the fourth item in the list at the left headed 'Pembury Village Life'. Alternatively, if you are not happy or

familiar with the Internet, Janet can take a telephone call.

If you are thinking of holding an event, please check the diary first. As soon as you have your event(s) date(s) decided, contact Janet Ditchett with the details so it can be included. Janet will need date, time, venue, organisation and contact name and address.

She can be contacted by:

- post at 7 Cornford Park, Pembury TN2 4PW;
- telephone on 822586;
- email jmditchett@freephone.net

A PROPOS NOTHING . . .

HOW PLEASANT it is to engage in debate and conversation. Few things can be as satisfying as chatting with a friend, and here in the village we have a place we can go dedicated to just this pastime: it's free and it's available 24 hours a day . . . the Pembury Online Community Forum.

Whether you'd like to discuss the weather, or perhaps question whether the spirit of communism is a delusion or an ultimate goal: anything goes.

Of course, being the Pembury Community forum, there are sections dedicated to local issues and announcements: what's happening on the Green? Is the new hospital going ahead? Just what is the maximum speed that can be achieved in a car down Lower Green Road?

You might like to discuss horticulture, or tell everyone about a frog you found lurking in your garden. Perhaps you'd like to recommend a plasterer, or take part in a straw poll, or maybe a quiz. Why not share

what you've got playing on your iPod / CD player / turntable. And what is the best format: iPod / CD player / turntable? The joy of the forum is that the discussions are as diverse as the people taking part!

Set up by Steve Morton a couple of years ago, the Pembury Community Forum has become a lively, entertaining and informative website, where Pembury people can get to know each other. The discussions have even been known to transfer to the Camden Arms occasionally! While some people prefer to stay anonymous, everyone is welcomed to the forum whether it is just to read, argue with someone, or to start your own topic.

So why not turn on your computer, and visit the forum through the Pembury Village News website:
<http://www.pembury.org.uk>

Or don't (Discuss).

Dean Armstrong

PEMBURY BOWLS CLUB

SADLY, SEPTEMBER saw the end of the outdoor bowls season for us and although we had no usable facilities we



were able to hold our internal competitions

during the course of the summer and complete our finals successfully on a brilliant weekend in September. The finance is now in place and over the next few months work will be carried out on the interior of the building.

It is an exciting time for us and we look forward to finishing our Clubhouse in the New Year ready for the 2008 season.

Barbara Scholten



BUTTERFLIES AND YOUR GARDEN

UNFORTUNATELY, DUE to this year's awful summer weather and the fact that not many days were spent sitting in the garden, most people will probably not have noticed the absence of the butterflies that normally adorn our gardens.

Butterflies need plants, special ones which need positioning in the right location. Butterflies are insects that pass through a four-stage life cycle: egg or ova, caterpillar or lava, chrysalis or pupa and butterfly or imago. Unfortunately, the plant requirement is different at each stage, but I will go into greater detail next time around.

Nectar is the main energy source but this is where planting in the right location is so important. A plant that is suitable, full of nectar but planted in a cool shaded location will not attract much attention, whereas the same plant in a warm, sheltered, sunny spot will be a hive of activity.

More next time, but start to plan your garden with a few of these I have picked out:

- **Spring flowering Aubretia**
- **Candytuft** – height 8 inches
- **Field Scabious** (*Knautia arvensis*)
- **Small Scabious** (*Scabiosa columbaria*)
- **Hebe**, especially Great Orme and Midsummer Beauty and also, Ice Plant, but it must be *Sedum spectabile*, to name just a few; more next time.

Where possible, arrange the plants group-wise and not singly and start planning now.

Good Luck!

Hugh Boorman



David Salter

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M.O.T. TESTS

GREEN GARDENING

WE INTRODUCE our new gardening correspondent, a professional journalist and member of Royal Horticultural Society. Masha has a keen interest in wildlife gardening and looks forward to covering both local and global issues.

IT CAN OFTEN seem tricky to strike a sensible balance between the likes of the gardener and the needs of nature. Yet there's no need for this to be the case. The garden is a shared space. A great number of living creatures, from invisible bacteria up to the gardener himself, occupy an average English garden. Should you care to follow two simple rules – being gentle and in tune with nature's rhythms, achieving this balance is easily within your grasp.

Winter is the perfect time for structural maintenance. What maintenance, you ask, when everything is bare and lifeless? Ah, it's the perfect time to feed the 'master of the soil' – the earthworm. This creature is responsible for clearing autumn ground litter and turning it into perfect food for plants for the next season. Not only that, it also delivers it directly to the roots! A nuisance on the patio, these litter conversion factories are a welcome treat in the garden. If you find them on any paved surfaces just scoop them up gently and move them onto your flower beds. Your plants will reward you with abundance next year. The same goes for any dead leaves, branches and pulled out weeds that you haven't removed yet. It all makes perfect food for the worm.

The second great task for winter is pruning. Yes, don't wait for sunny Easter days. Birds will settle in their nests and you will be disturbing busy parents. Right now leaf-shedding trees and shrubs are in deep winter sleep and their metabolism is slowed down. It works like an anaesthetic during surgery – they won't feel much while you can take your time getting on with the job. So get your secateurs out on a dry day and get on with pruning.

Before you start it's wise to assess what needs to be done in advance, so you don't butcher your plants unnecessarily. The rate of recovery depends on where and how you cut off the branches. The simple and best way to prune is under an angle over the branch collar in order to let the tree heal the wound with a healthy protection zone. Leave your power tools in the shed and pick up a hand saw. These instruments are better designed to insure a healthy and correct way of pruning, at the branch's smallest point where the branch meets the branch collar. If you think that it doesn't matter and the plant will re-grow anyway, you are wrong. It may re-grow, but it will never be healthy. Flush cuts and cuts that leave stubs are major starting points for many tree problems: decayed wood, cavities, resin pockets, cracks, wet-wood, cankers, insect infestation and so on. The end result is a dead tree. Sadly, I've got two in my newly acquired garden that need to be taken down. Luckily, I have a superb professional shredder – a worthwhile investment at the Hampton Court show. While dying trees are no good for the garden, their shredded mulch will make nutritious food for earthworms and a nurturing cover for the bare soil, so next spring I expect healthier growth from the plants in this reconditioned soil. Smart green gardening requires small effort but returns great rewards.



Did you know?

The weight of earthworms on pasture land may be greater than the weight of live stock grazing upon it. The first person to draw the attention of science to earthworms was Charles Darwin, who also observed the signs of rudimentary intelligence in these creatures. The earth without worms would soon become cold, hard-bound, void of fermentation and consequently sterile.

Masha Bayles



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MY PLOT

I AM PLEASED to be able to announce that RootOut is a weedkiller that really has knocked back my horsetails. One very badly infested patch on my allotment was sprayed two years ago and has remained fairly free of them. I dare not say cleared completely but it looks promising. Next year I am going to grow crops on that area and spray another patch to lie fallow for a year. It does seem a terrible waste of space but short of grassing the whole lot over and mowing it for three years; I don't know what else to try!

If horsetails don't grow through grass, then would that make it a good incentive to take on a redundant plot? Although the Parish Council recently celebrated the allotments being fully rented out, I would hate anyone to feel they'd missed out. There is plenty of room over there so long as you are prepared to start from scratch. It is really interesting (if you like that sort of thing?) to look at the plots from Google Earth on www.earth.google.com or for even more detail (without paying for it) try www.192.com/maps/index.

You can't quite tell what crops I grew that summer, but you can tell it was quite late in the afternoon because of the shadows. And I can't see me there at the time. Anyway, what it does show nicely, is how much of the ground is cultivated and you can be reassured that there is still a plot left for you if you want one. But it will mean starting with major ground clearing . . .

It would be worth finding out if the rent is still free in the second year if you reclaim a redundant plot. If so, in your first year you could just cover the ground completely with sheets of lightproof stuff and come back the following Spring to clear earth - virtually ready to plant - with some patience but very little effort. And you would have that first productive year free as a bonus. I'm almost tempting myself!

Meanwhile, I'm hoping to try Autumn onion sets again this year - if I can find any.

It doesn't seem likely that we'll have an April like last year again, which whilst it was gorgeous, finished my poor confused onions right off. And I am just about to start picking Broccoli off four year old plants and anticipating Calabrese in the Spring from plants that I would normally have pulled up after the first harvest. Which just goes to show that you can leave these in as perennials if you've got the room.

Caroline Mazzey



Dawn Hodgson MSSCh MBChA
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OUT & ABOUT CLUB

STARTED JUST 18 months ago by St Peter's Church, the Out and About Club has arranged several successful and enjoyable outings for Pembury residents. The committee has recently reviewed the way that tickets are sold and decided that in future a pack will be prepared well in advance and sent out to anyone interested. The pack will contain details of all the forthcoming trips, together with a booking form which can be sent off by individuals to select and book their place on any of the trips. The outings planned for 2008 are:

Friday 8 February 2008 – LUNCH AT THE DUKE'S HEAD, Crawley Down followed by visit to Sunhill garden and craft centre with shopping area and café. Cost £15.

Wednesday 14 May 2008 – VISIT TO ST ALBANS. A picturesque, historic riverside town which dates back to the Romans. Enjoy some leisurely free time exploring the famous clock tower, Abbey and Royal National Society Rose gardens. Cost £10.

Monday 7 July 2008 – KENNET & AVON CANAL TRIP on traditional horse-drawn barge. We drive by coach to Kintbury in Berkshire; from there we enjoy a three-hour trip on the Kennet & Avon canal. Either picnic or optional fish and chip lunch on board; a bar with hot and cold drinks, beers and wines. Cost £17 inclusive.

Friday 26 September 2008 – VISIT TO FAVERSHAM on market day followed by a visit to Beech Court gardens high on the North Downs for a cream tea. Cost £15.

Either Sunday 23 or Sunday 30 November 2008 (date yet to be confirmed) – CLASSICAL SPECTACULAR AT ROYAL ALBERT HALL We will travel by coach to the Royal Albert Hall for the 2.30pm performance of the Classical Spectacular, a 'last night of the proms' type concert with music such as Pearl Fishers duet, Pomp and Circumstance March, 1812 Overture etc, accompanied by lasers, fireworks, guns, and cannons. Full details be confirmed later. Cost likely to be £19.

If you would like details of these outings with booking forms please contact **Jean Pearce on 824422**.

PEMBURY IN THE PAST

IN THE Autumn edition, we published a photo found by Margaret Coverly at Pembury School and asked readers to send in any information about the event and participants.

We had several replies and have amalgamated the answers. Timing is possibly 1977 on the school field after a Scottish country dancing display or 1979 at a school fete. Another possible location is the Village Green in May in the 1970s or most likely a country dancing display on the Village Green 1978/79.

Suggested participants:

Back row, from the left: -, Georgina Hiscock, -, Emma Walsh, Julie Smith, -, Fiona Dillon, April Bourke, Bernice Hurnison, Mark Tompkins, Tina Fuller, -, Anne-Marie Chambers, Nicola Boakes?, Rachel Davis?, Karen

Hiscock?, Rachel Cook, Katy/Katie Phillips, Maxine Allen, Samantha Barker, Karen Handy, Charlotte Boar.

Middle row: Amanda Marsh, Alison Warrior.

Front row: Sandrina Bruno, -, -, Caroline Boar, Colette Fidge, Sally Large/Sarah Mills, April Chapman, Christine Baxter, -, Claire Salmon.



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ST PETER'S

16 December	6.30pm	Carol service with 'Quintus' – Old Church
18 December	2pm	Pepenbury Carol Service – Upper Church
23 December	6.30pm	Carol service – Upper Church
24 December	4pm	Crib Service – Upper Church
	11.30pm	First Eucharist of Christmas/Midnight Mass – Upper Church
25 December	8am	Holy Communion – Upper Church
	10am	Christmas Celebration with Holy Communion – Upper Church
	10am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) – Old Church

ST ANSELM'S

23 December	10.30am	Fourth Sunday of Advent
24 December	6pm	Carols and Readings
	6.30pm	Mass of the Vigil of Christmas (for Children and Nativity)
25 December	10.30am	Christmas Day Mass
30 December	10.30am	Mass of the Holy Family

PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

16 December	10am	Christmas Sunday and Communion
	5pm	Carols by Candlelight
	7pm	Carols by Candlelight
24 December	11.30pm	Christmas Eve Communion
25 December	10am	Christmas Day Family Celebration
30 December	10am	All-age Service

CAROL SINGING

The churches of Pembury will be carol singing outside Tesco's on 12 December at 7pm and outside the Camden Arms on 19 December also at 7pm. All proceeds will go to the Hospice in the Weald. All are invited to join in!
For more details call 825590 or 824761



CRIME IN PEMBURY

WELL, HERE we are again – Christmas and all the mayhem that comes with it. If only people could relax and enjoy Christmas for what it is and not get caught up in the ever-increasing demand to ‘spend, spend, spend!’

Still, on with the crime figures for the months of July, August and September 2007 which are unbelievably low at 31. For the same period last year, the figure was 51 which is a remarkable improvement, one figure disappearing completely. There is an additional road that of the A21B, which I am awaiting confirmation of what section of road that is. Please remember that if your road is not shown then there has been no reported crime for that road.

There has recently been doubt cast on the accuracy of these figures but I must state again that they come directly from the Kent Police headquarters at Maidstone in the first week of the next quarter. I have no doubt that some of you will look at these figures and say that they are not correct, BUT if you are the victim of crime and have not reported it to the police and obtained an incident number, then that cannot be included in this report and it is then classed as unreported crime.

This is the time of year when there is normally a surge in crime due mainly to the amount of cash changing hands. Please remember, no unattended bags on supermarket trolleys and if practical, don't take all your credit cards with you, leave some at home. When you are in your local or other places socialising, don't tell the whole world that you are away for Christmas. Lastly, do not leave phones, valuables, etc., on display in your parked car.

Could I ask you all, if you have not heard the recent statement issued by Help the Aged of the damning figures regarding older and less able to think of the hundreds of thousands who live in complete isolation and loneliness and who have no contact with anyone, relatives included, for months on end.

Christmas is always the easiest time to show goodwill, but why should it stop there? We all know that some elderly people often refuse friendship and help, when deep down they want it. Indeed, some can be cantankerous and stubborn to the point of being frustrating but we have to overcome that.

So let's kick off the Christmas season with a determined ambition to make sure that Pembury at least has received the message.

Have a peaceful and Happy Christmas.

Hugh Boorman

Editor's note: The Parish Council fully supports Hugh's plea to report any crimes, incidents or suspicious behaviour to the police, even though it's not always easy. It's very much a case of each piece of the jigsaw making up a collective picture. This magazine very much appreciates the figures provided by the Kent Police, the support of the West Kent Neighbourhood Watch Liaison Officer in Tunbridge Wells and above all the efforts of Hugh Boorman for writing these articles.

MONTH	Assault	Burglary Dwelling	Burglary Other	Criminal Damage	Theft from Motor Vehicle	Theft Offences	Theft of Motor Vehicle	TOTAL
July 2007	3	1		1	2	3	2	12
August 2007	2	1	1	3	4	2		13
September 2007	2			2	1	1		6
TOTAL	7	2	1	6	7	6	2	31
ROAD								
A21 B	1						2	3
Beagles Wood Road		2						2
Bellfield Road					1			1
Church Road	1							1
Hastings Road	2			2	1			5
Henwood Green Road	3			1	3			7
Heron's Way						1		1
Highfield Close				1				1
Maidstone Road				1	1	1		3
Romford Road			1					1
The Grove						1		1
Tonbridge Road				1	1	2		4
Woodhill Park						1		1
TOTAL	7	2	1	6	7	6	2	31

FOR YOUR DIARY

Village Market – Village Hall Tuesdays 9.30am-11.30am

Pembury Community Warden surgery same days as above, 10am-11.30am

Town & Country (High Weald Housing) Clinic same days as above, 10am-11am

WRVS Lunch Club – every Wednesday at 11.45am in the Pembury Village Hall during the school term time.

CAB – Pembury Library – Wednesday mornings, 9.30am to 12.30pm

December 2007

- 12 Christmas Carol singing – Outside Tesco's – 7pm
- 19 Christmas Carol singing – Outside The Camden Arms – 7pm

January 2008

- 1 New Year's Footpath Walk – Stonecourt Lane – 10am to approx 1pm (sorry, no dogs)
- 3 Pembury Afternoon WI: New Year's Party – Village Hall – 2pm
- 4 Pembury Evening WI: Victorian magic lanterns – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 5 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Meet at The Camden Arms bus stop – 2.15pm
- 9 St Peter's Mothers' Union: 'Doing It Ourselves' – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 10 Pembury Book Group – Library – 11am Contact Library for details
- 14 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
- 14 Pembury U3A – Catholic Hall – 2.30pm

February

- 1 Pembury Evening WI: 'Italian cooking' – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 2 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Meet at Stonecourt Lane bus stop – 2.15pm
- 2 WI Jumble Sale plus Cake Stall – Village Hall – 2pm
- 7 Pembury Afternoon WI: 'Pot Plants and Propagation' – Village Hall – 2pm
- 10 Pembury U3A – Catholic Hall – 2.30pm
- 11 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
- 11 St Peter's Mothers' Union: 'Who Needs a Lifeboat?' – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 13 Pembury Gardeners' Society: AGM – Village Hall – 7.45 for 8pm
- 14 Pembury Book Group – Library – 11am Contact Library for details

March

- 1 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Meet at Bo-Peep Corner – 2.15pm
- 6 Pembury Afternoon WI: 'My life as a Couture Dressmaker' – Village Hall – 2pm
- 7 Pembury Evening WI: 'All round garden colour' – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 10 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall, meeting room – 8pm
- 10 Pembury U3A – Catholic Hall – 2.30pm
- 10 St Peter's Mothers' Union: AGM and Bring & Buy – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 13 Pembury Book Group – Library – 11am. Contact Library for details
- 13 Pembury Gardeners' Society: Talk 'Pruning' by Ken Turner – Catholic Hall – 7.45 for 8pm
- 29 Pembury Gardeners' Spring Show – Village Hall – 2.30pm
- 31 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – Village Hall – 8pm

ROSIE'S CHRISTMAS RECIPES

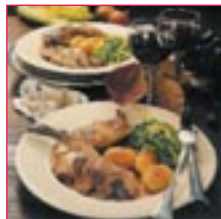
CHRISTMAS WILL soon be upon us. So here are a few suggestions.

PHEASANT WITH BRANDY

These pheasants are casserolled in rich gravy with redcurrant jelly, brandy and cream. Choose hen pheasant.

Ingredients to serve 4 people

2 oven-ready pheasant
25 g (1 oz) butter or margarine
1 tbsp corn oil
1 small onion, chopped
1 celery stick, chopped
450 ml (3/4 pt) beef stock
1 tbsp redcurrant jelly
2 tbsp plain flour
2 tbsp brandy
2 tbsp single cream
2 tsp capers
Salt & pepper, to taste



Preparation:

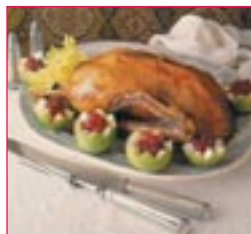
Heat oven to 180°C (350°F/Gas 4). Wipe pheasant. Heat butter and oil in a large, flameproof casserole. Fry onion and celery for 6-7 minutes. Add pheasant and brown all over. Pour over stock and stir in jelly. Bring to boil, cover and cook in oven for 1 hour, until tender. Transfer pheasant to a serving dish and keep warm. Strain stock, discarding onion and celery, and pour back into casserole. Blend flour with a little cold water. Stir into stock, and bring to boil, stirring, until slightly thickened. Add remaining ingredients. Carve pheasant and serve with the gravy. Good served with roast potatoes or large chips, spring greens and matchstick carrots.

ROAST GOOSE WITH FRUITY STUFFING

A wonderful celebration roast. Apple is a traditional accompaniment, so try it in this stuffing with nuts and sultanas.

Ingredients for 8 servings:

5 kg (10 lb) oven-ready goose
Stuffing –
1 onion, chopped
25 g (1 oz) butter
225 g (8 oz) cooking apple peeled, cored and, finely chopped
1 lemon, juice and finely grated rind
75 g (3 oz) fresh white breadcrumbs
50 g (2 oz) pine nuts
50 g (2 oz) medium oatmeal, toasted



40 g (1 1/2 oz) sultanas
2 small eggs, beaten
Salt and pepper, to taste
Cranberry sauce, apple and celery leaves, to garnish

Preparation:

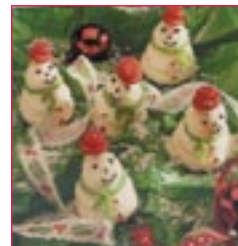
Preheat oven to 200°C (400°F/Gas 6). Trim fat from goose and reserve. Prepare stuffing: fry onion in butter for 5 minutes. Toss apple in lemon juice. Mix in onion and remaining stuffing ingredients. Add egg to bind, then season. Stuff goose and rub skin with salt. Put on a roasting rack, breast-side down and put reserved goose fat on top. Pour a little water into tin. Cover goose loosely with foil. Roast for 2 1/4 hours. Pour off fat, turn breast-side up and cover with foil. Roast for another 3/4 hour, removing foil for last 10-15 minutes to brown goose. To test if cooked, pierce thick part of leg with a skewer: juices should run clear. Serve garnished accompanied by your favourite Christmas vegetables and potatoes.

MERINGUE SNOWMEN

Try these Christmas teatime treats and get the children to help you decorate them.

Ingredients for 15 snowmen:

2 egg whites
100 g (4 oz) caster sugar
2 glacé cherries, cut into very small pieces
2 tbsp desiccated coconut
Coloured icing or melted chocolate, to pipe faces
100 g (4 oz) white marzipan
Red and green food colouring



Preparation

Line a baking sheet with baking parchment. Preheat oven to 110°C (225°F/Gas 1/4). Whisk egg whites until stiff. Whisk in half sugar, then lightly fold in remainder with a metal spoon. Spoon into a piping bag fitted with a large plain nozzle and pipe snowmen onto baking sheet. Reduce pressure on bag whilst piping to produce a neck and a thinner middle to the body. Place cherry buttons on body. Sprinkle with coconut and bake for 1 3/4 hours, until firm and crisp. Transfer to a wire rack to cool. Place icing in a greaseproof piping bag, snip end and pipe faces on snowmen. Colour marzipan, make top hats and scarves and decorate.

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year

Rosie Bass

PMT – PEMBURY MUSICAL TALENT

ON SATURDAY 3 November, a musical charity evening was held in the village hall. Its aim was to raise money for the Lower Church Youth Club which helps so many people in our community. It was an evening thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended, young and old alike.

There was live music and outstanding performances from: The Rox, The Houdinis, Dr Bob, Growler, and The Flaming Moe's, as well as a bit of crooning from yours truly. Throughout the night people were up dancing, as well as tapping their feet and singing along. We couldn't have done it without the lighting talents of Derrick Goodwin, my family manning the bar and doors, Andy Burchett for setting up and clearing away the hall (who knew he was so handy with a mop!) the roadies Chris and Jan, and Luke and Alan for all the printing.

I am grateful to The Black Horse, Headmasters, The Ramada Jarvis Pembury and Dr Bob, who all donated prizes for the raffle. The night was a resounding success resulting in a grand total of £665.16 raised for the Youth Club. I hope to be able to organise another event next year, in aid of a different charity, and I look forward to seeing you all there.

Bill Slessor



CHURCH TIMES

ST. PETER'S CHURCH SERVICES

Upper Church

8am Holy Communion
9.45am The Parish
Eucharist
and Junior Church
10am Holy Communion
(Wednesdays)

Old Church

11.30am Matins (except
first Sunday, Holy
Communion)
Evening services as
advertised on Church
noticeboards.
Contact tel. no. 824761.

CATHOLIC CHAPEL OF ST. ANSELM – PEMBURY

Sunday Mass 10.30am
Holy Days – Vigil Mass
7.30pm
Confessions:
Sunday 10.15am

Weekday Service:
Wednesday – Mass 7pm

PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

Whether you are familiar with church or have never been to a church before, PBC is an enjoyable, caring and diverse community with activities all through the week for all ages.

Our services explore relevant life issues and are on Sundays at 10am for a family service (with children's activities) and 6.30pm for a café service.

We'd love to see you there!

Please call 825590 or visit
www.pemburybaptistchurch.org.uk for details

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

PARISH COUNCIL



Cllr David Coleman
22 Ridgeway TN2 4ER
Tel: 823402
Chairman of Parish Council



Cllr Steve Morton
2 The Coppice TN2 4EY
Tel: 824938
Vice Chairman of Parish Council
Chairman of Planning & Highways Working Group



Cllr June Crowhurst,
44 Elmhurst Avenue TN2 4DA
Tel: 824873
Chairman, Amenities, Christmas Lights and Pembury in Bloom



Cllr Janet Dichett,
7 Cornford Park TN2 4PW
Tel: 822586



Cllr Keith Farley
3 Beagles Wood Road
TN2 4HX
Tel: 823440



Cllr Matthew Jackson
4 Hastings Road TN2 4PD
Tel: 824761



Cllr Alison Morton
2 The Coppice TN2 4EY
Tel: 824938
Chairman, Pembury Village News Editorial Working Group
Chair Public Relations Working Group



Cllr Sally Osborn
34 Canterbury Road
TN2 4JT. Tel: 822726
Chairman, Allotments, Burials, Environment & Environmental Improvement Working Group



Cllr Jennifer Roberts
21 High Street TN2 4PH
Tel: 824922
Chairman, Finance, Audit & Personnel Working Group



Clerk to the Pembury Parish Council
Barbara Russell, 6 The Grove
TN2 4BU. Tel: 823193. Email:
clerk@pemburypc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Deputy Clerk to the Pembury Parish Council
Yvette Allen, 6 The Grove TN2 4BU.
Tel: 823193.
Email: deputy@pemburypc.kentparishes.gov.uk

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Paul Barrington-King, 22 The Coppice, TN2 4EY. Tel: 825144
June Crowhurst, 44 Elmhurst Avenue TN2 4DA. Tel: 824873
Mike Tompsett, 14 Gimble Way, TN2 4BX. Tel: 822711

COUNTY COUNCIL

Kevin Lynes, 5 Downs Cottages, The Down, Lamberhurst, Kent TN3 8EX. Tel: 890922

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

AGE CONCERN

Mrs Sandra Springett. Tel.: 522591

BLACK & WHITE MARCHING MILITAIRE

Tel: Louise 823097

BOWLS CLUB

Len Birnie. Tel: 01892 681222

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Deacon Bill Eason. Tel: 824133

CONSERVATIVE PARTY

Terry Cload, 56 Herons Way. Tel: 823966

CRICKET CLUB

Hon. Secretary: Andy Dawes, 17 Cornford Park, Pembury.
Tel: 822862

FRIENDS OF PEMBURY HOSPITAL

c/o Pembury Hospital. Tel: 823535

FRIENDS OF PEMBURY PARISH CHURCH

Chairman: Mrs S. Clarke, Little Stanton,
Romford Road. Tel: 823932

GUIDES, BROWNIES AND RAINBOWS

Mrs M. Allan, 9 Henwood Green Road. Tel: 822373

HIGH WEALD HOUSING (TOWN & COUNTRY)

Sally Hunter. Tel: 501605

HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

Maidstone Road. Tel: 820500

KENT COLLEGE

Headmistress: Ann Upton. Tel: 822006

KENT COLLEGE PREP SCHOOL & NURSERY

Headmistress: Anne Lawson. Tel: 820204

LABOUR PARTY

Dave & Sally Osborn, 34 Canterbury Rd. Tel: 822726

LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY

David Mills. Tel: 825577

LITTLE RASCALS

c/o PBC Office. Tel: 825590

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY

TW District. Tel: 0845 6037882

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND, UK

Michael Coggles. Tel: 822705

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Gill Pavely. Tel: 822605

PEMBURY ATHLETIC (YOUTH) FOOTBALL CLUB

David Gow. Tel: 824119

PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Wayne Alexander
Church Office. Tel: 825590

PEMBURY BRIDGE CLUB

Geoff Plummer. Tel: 824652

PEMBURY COMMUNITY WARDEN

Tom Younger. Tel: 07813 694138

PEMBURY COMMUNITY WORKING PARTNERSHIP

Parish Office. Tel: 823193

PEMBURY F.C. SATURDAY

Mick Waterman, 26 The Coppice. Tel: 824137

PEMBURY F.C. SUNDAY

Phil Craxton, 34 Woodhill Park. Tel: 823928

PEMBURY FOOTPATH WALKERS

N. & K. Franklin, 11 The Meadow. Tel: 823212

PEMBURY GARDENERS

Ann Purton. Tel: 824223

PEMBURY PHOENIX TWIRLERS

Dave or Chris Brett. Tel: 824233

PEMBURY PLAYERS

Margaret Weaver. Tel: 824362

PEMBURY PRE-SCHOOL NURSERY

Mrs C. Hughes. Tel: 07806 328330

PEMBURY SCHOOL

Headteacher – Mrs C. Thewlis. Tel: 822259

PEMBURY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Rachel Castle. Tel: 822259

PEMBURY SCHOOL HOUSE NURSERY

Teacher in charge: Rachel Teigen. Tel: 825580

PEMBURY SEQUENCE DANCE CLUB

Secretary: Mrs Marion Warren. Tel: 547617

PEMBURY SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

Arthur Storey. Tel: 822509

PEMBURY SOCIETY

Ken Watts. Tel: 822770

PEMBURY TENNIS CLUB

Mrs S. Smith, 2 Ridgeway. Tel: 822405

PEMBURY U3A

Membership Secretary: Andrew Richardson.
Tel: 824012

PEMBURY UPPER AND OLD CHURCH

Rev. Matthew Jackson Tel: 824761

PEMBURY VILLAGE MARKET

Karol Young. Tel: 823413
Julie Patte. Tel: 824479

PEMBURY YOUTH THEATRE ACADEMY

Dee Barrington-King. Tel: 825144

PEPENBURY

Principal: Mr Roger Gibson, Cornford Lane. Tel: 822168

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTHBOROUGH & PEMBURY

Secretary: Mike Raper. Tel: 01892 520171

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION

Peter Chartres, 54 Woodhill Park. Tel: 823759

SCOUTS, CUBS AND BEAVERS

Mike Cartwright, 16 Cornford Park, Pembury.
Tel: 823235

SCOUT & GUIDE HQ MANAGEMENT TEAM

Mike Cartwright, 16 Cornford Park, Pembury.
Tel: 823235 and Moira Allan, 9 Henwood Green Road.
Tel: 822373

ST. PETER'S MOTHERS' UNION

Secretary: Mrs M. Adams. Tel: 822769

ST. PETER'S PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

Events Secretary, Carol Wakeford. Tel: 822030

TREE WARDEN. Caroline Mazzev Tel: 822493

TUNBRIDGE WELLS ACCESS GROUP

Gill Pavely Tel: 822605

TUNBRIDGE WELLS & DISTRICT VICTIM SUPPORT

SCHEME. Tel: 513969

VILLAGE HALL

Manager (bookings): Rachel Windus.
Tel: 822837

WHEELCHAIR LOAN

(24 hour maximum for Pembury Residents)

Pauline Hawker. Tel: 824327

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Afternoon: Mrs Margaret Buss. Tel: 822530
Evening: Mrs Angela Saunders. Tel: 822307

WRVS LUNCH CLUB

Contact: Mrs Amanda Everett. Tel: 823280



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Independent Schools Inspectorate Report, 2004

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